

14. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein said biologically active compound comprises an α -hydroxycarboxylic acid, a β -hydroxycarboxylic acid and/or an α -ketocarboxylic acid.

15. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein said biologically active compound is salicylate or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 12, which also contains a xanthine as a biologically active compound.

17. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein the xanthine is caffeine.

18. (New) The composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the proportion of said membrane lipid to said biologically active compound is from 1:20 to 20:1 by weight.

19. (New) A method of preparing a composition in the form of a dry powder and which composition comprises:

a) at least one membrane lipid, and

b) at least one biologically active compound that is a carboxylic acid,

and which forms structured lipid assemblies when dispersed/dissolved in an aqueous medium, which process comprises either mixing or milling together the components to produce a homogeneous dry powder, or dispersing/dissolving the above components, either sequentially or simultaneously, in a solvent, subsequently removing the said solvent so as to form a solid mixture and then pulverizing the said solid mixture to produce a homogeneous dry powder.

20. (New) A dispersion of structured lipid assemblies suspended in a solution of at least one biologically active compound which comprises a carboxylic acid and that is suitable for use in preparations for topical administration.

21. (New) A method of preparing a dispersion of structured lipid assemblies suspended in a solution of at least one biologically active compound which comprises a carboxylic acid and that is suitable for use in preparations for topical administration, which method comprises dispersing/dissolving a dry powder composition which composition comprises:

- a) at least one membrane lipid, and
 - b) at least one biologically active compound that is a carboxylic acid,
- and which composition forms structured lipid assemblies when dispersed/dissolved in an aqueous medium, or the components of such a composition, with the said components being dispersed or dissolved either sequentially or simultaneously, in an aqueous medium.

22. (New) A dispersion of structured lipid assemblies suspended in a solution of at least one biologically active compound which comprises a carboxylic acid and that is suitable for use in preparations for topical administration, or as prepared by a method which comprises dispersing/dissolving a dry powder composition which composition comprises:

- a) at least one membrane lipid, and
 - b) at least one biologically active compound that is a carboxylic acid,
- and which composition forms structured lipid assemblies when dispersed/dissolved in an aqueous medium, or the components of such a composition, with the said components being dispersed or dissolved either sequentially or simultaneously, in an aqueous medium, and which dispersion is in the form of a cream, gel or lotion formulated for topical administration.